

September 1, 2016

## **Kittleman announces town hall on Ellicott City flood rebuilding efforts; names recovery manager**

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman today announced plans for a Recovery Town Hall meeting on Thursday, Sept. 15 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Veterans Elementary School, 4355 Montgomery Road in Ellicott City.

Kittleman will provide updates on recovery efforts as well as field questions from residents, businesses and property owners. Jim Robey, senior advisor for Community Recovery and Chairman of the Historic Ellicott City Recovery Community Advisory Group will also be in attendance.

“We want to continue to keep the lines of communication open with those impacted by the flood,” said Kittleman. “This is also another opportunity for us to hear of any of their unmet needs. We are committed to rebuilding an even better Ellicott City but we want to do it in a collaborative way.”

In addition, Kittleman today named former Howard County Fire and Rescue Services Chief Joseph Herr as the Ellicott City Recovery Project Manager. Kittleman said Herr was the perfect person for this role because he understands both the community and the workings of county government.

“This project called out for someone with Joe’s background and intimate knowledge of Ellicott City,” said Kittleman. “Joe knows the fabric of the community and what Historic Ellicott City means to people around here.”

In this role, Herr will coordinate the county’s comprehensive recovery efforts in Historic Ellicott City, serving as a conduit for community needs and government operations. A resident of Ellicott City, Herr was county fire chief from 2000-2009.

“Ellicott City has been my home for many years,” Herr said. “To be given the chance to work to help bring back Ellicott City is an honor and an opportunity I couldn’t refuse.”

County officials continue to work on details for a planned reopening of Ellicott City to pedestrian traffic by Sept. 16, weather permitting. Repairs continue on public infrastructure, particularly with the installation of temporary sidewalks, storm drain and riverbed cleanup and utilities.

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